THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5348. *Saturday, Feb.* 9, 1839. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

THE Pantomime of *Harlequin and Fair Rosamond* was performed last night as the first piece, after which a new Drama, called *The King and the Duke; or, the Siege of Alençon,* was performed with unanimous and well deserved applause. The scene is laid in Alençon, which town being in the hands of the partizans of the Duke of Mayenne, is besieged by the army of Henri IV. The nieces of the Governor are royalists, and two officers of the besieging army get into the town by stratagem, and after some difficulties and dangers, the young ladies get the royal standard hoisted over the principal gate, and the town surrenders to the royalists. The Drama was exceedingly well acted; Miss Taylor looked beautiful in her own dress, and afterwards made a very smart cavalier; we rejoice to see this charming actress again on these boards. Miss Rainforth also looked remarkably well, acted with charming *naievté,* and sang most sweetly; she was greatly applauded. Harley was very amusing as the vacillating Mayor, Bartley was excellent as the Governor, and Vining, as an officer of the royal army, played with all his accustomed buoyancy and spirit. There was some pleasing music introduced, the composition of T. Cooke; a chorus in the second act, was very spirited, and so well sung as to elicit an encore. The Farce of *The Invincibles* concluded.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

LAST night John Barnett's new Opera of *Farinelli* was produced at this Theatre, and notwithstanding a most unfortunate *contretemps,* had the most brilliant success; we allude to the hoarseness of Balfe, who played the principal character, and who sang in the first scene delightfully, but towards the end of the first act became suddenly hoarse, which increasing, he claimed the indulgence of the audience, and said, "that he was placed in a most unpleasant situation, being so hoarse that it was impossible he could do justice to the music of Mr. Barnett, he would, however, proceed and do his best." This appeal was received with cries of "Bravo," and loud applause, in which Mr. Barnett joined heartily. The music of this Opera is of the highest order, abounding in delightful melodies, and the instrumentation is rich and brilliant; much of the music in the first act reminded us of the inspired strains of Mozart's *Don Giovanni.* It is impossible in our confined space to point out the individual beauties of this delightful Opera, but we cannot help noticing

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the opening chorus, a duet between Balfe and Miss Romer, which was rapturously encored; another duet by Balfe and Miss Poole, also encored, an exquisite song by Balfe, and a double chorus, these were all gems. The libretto is by the brother of the composer, and he has made his hero, *Farinelli*, the instrument of restoring Phillip the Fifth of Spain, (who had by the machinations of traitors been reduced to a state of almost imbecility) to health of body and mind, and reconciling him to his Queen. The plot, without being particularly interesting, is sufficiently so not to destroy the effect of the enchanting music. The Opera was hailed throughout with acclamations, and the composer and all the principal performers were called before the curtain. Mr. Van Amburgh's wonderful performance, and the Pantomime, were the other entertainments.—The house was crowded.

Fashionable Lounges:

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town:—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st, Portman Sq.—A splended new Group, consisting of Her Majesty, in her Robes of State, the Duchess of Kent, the Dukes of Cambridge and Sussex. Earls Melbourne, Grey, & Normanby, and Lord Lyndhurst, in honor of the Coronation.—fac similies from life—the dresses of English Manufacture.

Tuesday, visit the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, to see the immense Model of *The Battle of Waterloo*, covering a space of 420 square feet, upon which the troops are engaged, amounting altogether to more then 190,000 men.—represented by means of Distinct Figures.—A most extraordinary and novel Exhibition.

Wednesday, called at S. ISAACS's splended establishment, 131, Regent Street, to view his beautiful and fashionable stock of Jewellery, Ornamental Furniture, and China, found he was selling them at 60 per cent, under the usual prices, as the whole must be cleared away in the course of a few days, prior to the Premise undergoing Repairs—made some purchases—found them of the best manufacture.

In my way from the the Theatre, drop in at the *Harmonie Meeting* held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, and the cheapness of the fare. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay here a week, and only pay a guinea for bed & breakfast. I'm always to be found on Wednesday at half-past five at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Wishing to purchase my winter stock of Hats, pop't into RICHARDS's, 125, Strand—found he had a most splendid assortment of elegant, light, and durable Beaver Hats—ordered a couple to be sent home immediately.—Made a memorandum, "RICHARDS & Co. 125, Strand, the only house in London for good hats."

Thursday, called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his much improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impairad to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at Doctor Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street,—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commence every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing ordinary held every day at five o'clock.

Mr. Editor some time back when my head ached and my eyes grew dim I dreaded to pry into my doctor's bill. Now I only have to call on friend Grimstone, 39, Broad Street, Bloomsbury, purchase some of his Herbacious Eye Snuff in canisters of 1s. 3d. and 2s. 4d. each. Try my sight by reading the testimonials—whiff my Cigar, frighten away my headache, and gaily cry "Throw Physic to the dogs I'll have none of it."

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester-Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art,—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (2nd Time) a New Serio-Comic Opera, in 2 Acts, entitled

FARINELLI.

The Overture & Music composed by JOHN BARNETT.

The New Scenery by the Messrs. GRIEVE.

Philip the Fifth, (King of Spain) Mr STRETTON,
Don Gil Polo, Mr GIUBILEI,
Alphonso, (Capt. of the Palace Guard,) Mr FRANKS,
Theodore, (One of the Royal Pages) Miss FORDE,
Farinelli, otherwise Carlo Broschi, Mr M. W. BALFE,
Elizabeth Farnese, (Queen of Spain) Miss ROMER,
Leonora, otherwise Geraldine, .. Miss POOLE.

The following is the order of the New Scenery :—

ROYAL PALACE OF MADRID.

The King's Saloon. *Royal Chamber.*

FARINELLI'S STUDY.

After the Opera,

Mr. VAN AMBURGH

Will exhibit a series of Extraordinary Performances
With the whole of his Trained Animals !

To conclude with, (37th Time) a New Grand Christmas Comic Pantomime, called

HARLEQUIN AND

JACK FROST ;

OR,

OLD GOODY HEARTY !

Pingue Caput, (*King of Utopia,*) Mr HOWELL,
Augmento Interminable Bothero, (*Chancellor*) Mr ELLIOT,
Pomposo, Mr FENTON, Mynheer Longo Muggo, Mr HARRIS,
Druda, (*Queen of the Northern Fairies,*) Miss FORDE,
Jack Frost, ... (*a Sprite*) ..... Master MARSHALL.
Princess Humptia Dumptia, Mr WIELAND,
Marchioness of Mulligrub, ... Mr HEATH.
Old Goody Hearty, Madame SIMON,
Blanche..... (*her eldest Daughter,*) .....Mr F. FENTON,
Rosa, (*her youngest Daughter*) Miss BARNETT.

*** The following is an analysis of the main Incidents & Scenery:

Druda's Dwelling, near the North Pole. The Golden Terraces of Pingue Caput. Old Goody Hearty's Cottage. State Apartment in the Palace. His Majesty's Presence Chamber. Outside of Goody Hearty's Farm.

Harlequin.....Mr HOWELL, Columbine.....Miss LANE,
Clown, Mr WIELAND, Pantaloon, Mr ELLIOT,

Corner of Windmill Street. Cottage, with Mill, Granaries and Out-Houses. Garden Grounds, Dwelling and Green-Houses. Doctor's Shop, and Lodging House. Circulating Library and Shop, Public House by the Road Side. Frost Fair on the Thames, in which scene will be introduced the Performance of the celebrated Dancers of Germany on the Tight Rope.

Flora, FANNY DE WINTHER, Zephyr, IWAN DE WINTHER.

Jack Frost's Icicled Cavern. The Regions of Thaw ! Ganerat Tableau of the Characters.

On Monday, Farinelli, The Lions, & The Pantomime.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Play of The

TEMPEST,

From the

TEXT OF SHAKSPEARE.

The Music Selected from the Works of PURCELL, LINLEY, and DR. ARNE, AND ARRANGED BY MR. T. COOKE.

The Entre-Acts, from CORELLI.

Previous to the Play, Weber's Overture to "The Ruler of the Spirits,"

Alonzo, Mr WARDE, Sebastian, Mr DIDDEAR,
Prospero, Mr MACREADY Antonio, Mr PHELPS,
Ferdinand, Mr ANDERSON, Caliban, Mr G. BENNETT,
Trinculo, Mr HARLEY, Stephano, Mr BARTLEY,
Miranda, Miss H. FAUCIT, Ariel, Miss P. HORTON,
Spirits in the Vision. Iris, Mrs SERLE,
Ceres... ..Miss P. HORTON, Juno.....Miss RAINFORTH.

After which, (*2nd Time*) a New Drama, called

King & the Duke

Or, The Siege of Alençon.

THE INCIDENTAL MUSIC BY MR. T. COOKE.

Governor of Alençon, (*for the Duke of Mayenne*) Mr BARTLEY
Count D'Armonville, (*a Royalist*) Mr ANDERSON,
Chevalier St. Maurice, .. (*a Royalist*) .. Mr VINING,
Chapeanbas, (*Mayor of Alençon*) Mr HARLEY,
Doctor O'Whack, Mr T. LEE, Drug, (*his Assistant*) Mr MEADOWS
Deuxmots, Mr TILBURY, Host of the Cabaret, Mr BEDFORD,
Captain Legarde, Mr ROBERTS, Sentry, Mr PAULO,
Captain Moustache, Mr BENDER, Servant, Mr C. J. SMITH,
Madame Alice, (*the Governor's Cousin*) Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Gabrielle & Laura, .. Miss RAINFORTH & Miss TAYLOR.

On Monday, King Lear, and Fair Rosamond.

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